

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, PO, GE, GW
SUBJECT: MEDIA LINE ON CONSEQUENCES OF SUPPRESSION OF LEFTIST COUP
ATTEMPT IN PORTUGAL.

1. ON FEBRUARY 11, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, THE SED PARTY NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED A DESPATCH FROM ITS LISBON CORRESPONDENT ENTITLED," CLASS STRUGGLE IN PORTUGAL SHARPENS FURTHER", WHICH IS AN INTERESTING EXAMPLE OF THE PRESENT LINE ON PORTUGAL. THE ARTICLE SAYS THE NOVEMBER 25, 1975 EVENTS(WHICH WE ASSUME TO MEAN THE SUPPRESSION BY THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT OF A COUP ATTEMPT BY LEFTIST MILITARY ELEMENTS) HAS EMBOLDENED" REACTIONARY LANDLORDS AND OTHERS") AS THEY TRY TO PRESS THE GOVERNMENT TO DESTROY " REVOLUTIONARY ACHIEVEMENTS" SUCH AS LAND REFORM AND WORKER CONTROL OF NATIONALIZED ENTERPRISES. VARIOUS EXAMPLES OF THIS SUPPOSED DRIVE TO REINSTALL THE OLD ORDER ARE CITED.

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2. THE ARTICLE THEN MAKES A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SIGNATURE BY FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER OF " GENEROUS CREDIT AGREEMENT" OF " OVER 250 MILLION DOLLARS" WHILE RECENTLY IN LISBON AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE NOVEMBER 25 EVENTS. THE ARTICLE SAYS , HOWEVER, THAT THE SOLIDARITY OF PORTUGUESE WORKERS WILL DEFEAT THIS TREND TOWARD COUNTER-REVOLUTION, LED BY LANDLORDS, ORGANIZED INTO THE CAP, AND NON-LEFTIST PARTIES, CDS AND PPPD, WHICH ARE CHARACTERIZED AS "RIGHTIST".

3. COMMENT: NONE OF THIS IS PARTICULARLY SURPRISING. HOWEVER, WE FIND IT INTERESTING THAT THE SED USES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK THE FRG'S GOVERNING COALITION, PARTICULARLY WHEN THE DEBATE OVER " NORTHERN VS SOUTHERN" SOCIALIST CONCEPTS ON COOPERATION WITH WESTERN EUROPEAN CPS IS ATTRACTING SOME INTEREST THERE THAT IS ALSO RELATED TO THE PREPARATIONS FOR ECPC. GROVE

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